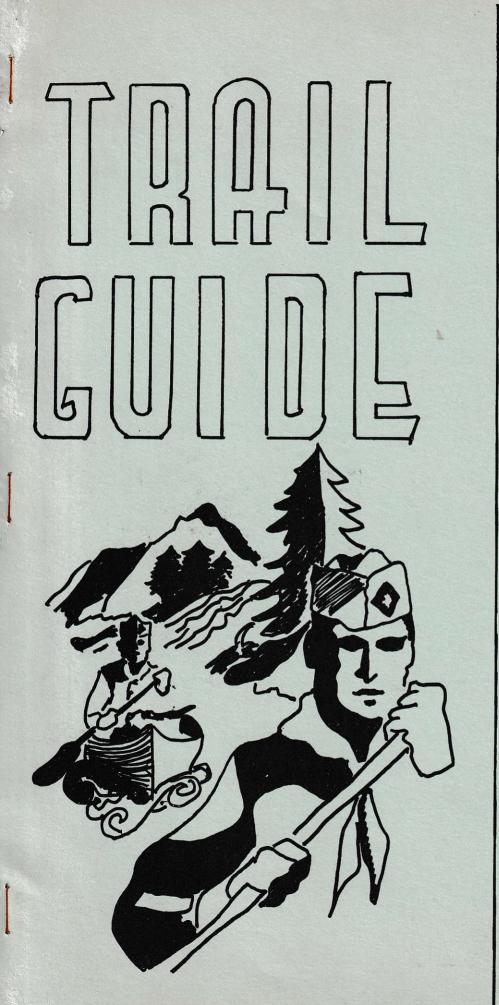
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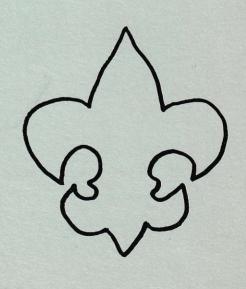
OWASIPPE

SCOUT
RESERVATION

TRAIL
INFORMATION

And

CANOE
ROUTES



Chicago Area Council



Boy Scouts of America

OWASIPPE ADVENTURE LAND

Michigan, the nation's water wonderland, has historically been one of America's finest high adventure areas for Scouts and Explorers. In the north eastern section of the lower peninsula some of the country's finest canoe and trail routes await the adventuresome Scouts from Owasippe. This rugged region was once famous as a land for the Voyaguer, trapper, hunter and native American as the birchbark canoes and mocassins traveled these storied routes.

In the heart of this fabled area lies Owasippe Scout Reservation --- the major base of summer camp operations for the Chicago Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Owasippe, America's second largest Scout Camp, is unique in that on its 12,000 acres of Michigan wilderness and the thousands of acres of surrounding forest land, the opportunities exist for most any type of high adventure trail program a Scout could desire. This booklet is written to introduce you to and help you plan for your Scouts' high adventure program next summer.

THE "PACK AND PADDLE" TRAIL PROGRAM

What is the trail program? The "Pack and Paddle" trail program is an opportunity for every Scout - regardless of his Scouting experience level to have the opportunity to participate in a trail experience while at camp.

A trail experience could be from a minimum of a few hours hiking the trails of Owasippe to a high adventure of a week or more on the trail or canoe routes of this fabled adventure land.

HOW DOES A GROUP PLAN A TRAIL PROGRAM?

In unit planning sessions for camp, each unit should decide upon a trail program for their group. The entire troop or post could take part or maybe only a patrol or crew. There should be a minimum of five for a canoe experience and three for trail trips. Day hikes could be a group as small as two Scouts. Overnight canoe and trail trips require a registered adult Scouter at least 18 years of age as the trip leader.

After carefully studying this brochure the Scout leader and trip leader should fill in and mail to the Chicago Area Council Camping Service office - a "Pack and Paddle Request" form (copies in back of book). This booklet contains information on the types of trips available - equipment needed - costs (if any) - trail foods available - transportation plans to "jump off" points or return ports and other trail information. In planning - choose a trip that fits the boy's experience.

After filling out the "Pack and Paddle" request form and forwarding it to the Camping Service, you will receive a confirmation of the availability for your trip. Confirmations for equipment, trail campsites will be handled on a first comefirst served basis by date of receipt of the "Pack and Paddle."

UNITS WHO DO NOT WANT TO CAMP AT OSR---BUT WANT TO GO ON A 'PACK & PADDLE'

Those troops or posts that are not enrolled as regular Owasippe camping units, but who desire to sign up for a "Pack and Paddle" experience may do so on a daily-per person charge. This charge will include all equipment issued any "Pack and Paddle" group, three meals per day, and Trail Coordination service. Cost for "out of camp P and P groups" is \$5.00 per day, per person. Transportation costs are additional.

TRAIL COORDINATION

During your first day in camp, you will meet with your commissioner and a member of the Trail Department. They will review your plans with you, making any last minute changes you feel should be made. If any help is needed to plan your trail program, your commissioner will work with your unit leadership at camp to plan those experiences. Check with them for newly added outposts and trails. Remember that trail requests are coordinated through a Central Reservation Trail Department. Schedules of equipment, transportation and campsites must be maintained. All trail participants must agree to adhere to the schedules agreed upon prior to departure. Your tardiness arriving at a return point - overstay at a favorite campsite - or misuse of equipment will affect the total trail program. You and your group will be expected to be "Good Scouts" and follow the rules set up to guide the trail program.

TRAIL INSTRUCTION

Before your departure for the trail, an instruction session will be held. This meeting will be conducted by a Reservation staff member who has been instructed in trail techniques and preparedness. Trail camping procedures, packing methods, use of dehydrated foods, dutch ovens, etc. will be demonstrated. The trail leader and junior leaders should attend this session. They in turn should train the other boys in your unit.

ASSIGNED OUTPOSTS

Please use the outpost camp assigned to you. Many times an emergency call comes into camp and the Reservation staff must know your outpost location to convey information. Upon returning from any trail experience, check in with your camp office as soon as you return so that messages, back mail, etc. may be passed on to you.

TRASH AND LATRINES

Unburnables and garbage must be brought back to camp. Do not bury garbage, as the animals will dig it up.

Be sure to dig a deep latrine and fill it in after use. Latrines should be dug away from the outpost area and camp areas!

FOOD AND EQUIPMENT

Your commissioner and Central Trail Co-ordinator will set up your food order for your meals on the trail. You will be advised when to pick up your trail food and equipment. All equipment is issued from your camp office/quartermaster. Special backpacking, canoe and trail equipment is available on a rental or resale basis from the Trail Outfitter Store located at the central Administration Center. All loaned and rental equipment must be promptly returned, complete and clean. Equipment that is not clean will not be accepted until clean. Any part missing must be paid for by the unit using the equipment.

EXTENDED TRIPS -FOOD DELIVERY

On extended trail trips of over six days duration, arrangements can be made to have food drops. There is a cost for this. Check cost schedule in this book.

EMERGENCIES ON TRAIL

If any emergency occurs on trail, send for help immediately. Phones are within easy hiking distance to all trails and canoe routes. Check your map for emergency locations. The emergency phone numbers at Owasippe are: Central Administration -894-4061; Health Lodge - 894-4061 (through Administration Center); Duty Ranger - 894-8181. Do not attempt to move persons who have had an accident. Apply First Aid measures and wait for medical help.

Please do not hike on the highway, camp roads or two tracks unless the trail markers follow them. Trucks and private cars travel along those roads. This endangers your hikers.

FIRE

FIRE is a constant threat at Owasippe. Duff (decayed dried ground cover) is very inflammable as is the fern in late summer. Always clear an area for your fireplace. First use existing fireplaces - do not build a new one unless none is available. Dig your latrine and use the removed soil to build up place for your fire, replacing all when leaving. When you leave a site, dig and drown your fire several times, feeling the ashes and area around it with your hands. If you discover a fire, report it immediately and send for help.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The "show must go on" is an old clicke of the show business world - this is true also of Scout camp. Inclement weather is just another way for the Scout to learn to endure in the out-of-doors under any and all conditions. Usually those Scouts who experience an inclement weather opportunity have a better time because they really "roughed it" like the pioneers of old. Use good judgment - patience and your skill as an outdoorsman and your Scouts will be better men for it.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of groups can be arranged through the Central Trail Co-ordinator. Scouts and leaders are transported by bus to "out of camp" jump off points or returned from "out of camp" reentry ports. Canoes can also be delivered or returned from these points. There is a minimum transportation charge for this service. Combined units using the same vehicle split the charges - the Central Trail Co-ordinator reserves the right to combine units for transportation purposes.

TYPES OF TRIPS

Many leaders are hesitant to try backpacking or canoeing with their Scouts because they, themselves, are not skilled in camping or canoeing techniques. Necessary camping and canoeing skills are easily learned. Experienced staff are available to instruct and guide you in the best methods and techniques, to make your experience on the trails enjoyable. Guide service will be available for getting the group off on the trail for a short period of time. This service should be requested well in advance of the trip so that staff schedules can be arranged to accommodate.

Got a group of young campers? If so, we suggest an easy trip for their first experience. This may be a day hike. Taking your lunch and supper along, cook on the trail, and return before dark. This has several advantages. One - it requires few packs. Two - your campfire and sleeping is in your troop site, back at camp. Three - the distance covered and the type of meal cooked can most often cover the requirements for Second Class hiking and cooking.

If you wish to take an overnight trip, but your boys are inexperienced, we suggest one of the outposts on the Reservation reached by well-marked Owasippe trails.

Want to climb a mountain, but you have inexperienced boys? Well, in the lower peninsula of Michigan - even with all the facilities available at Owasippe - a mountain is pretty hard to come by - however, we can suggest some steep hills along the White River that will challenge any Scout-age boy.

In filling out your "Pack and Paddle" form, if you mark point "A" in the question "What Kind of Trip," we will know what you mean -

- 1) You have an inexperienced group
- 2) They probably have never carried a pack two or more miles

AND YOU CAN REQUEST

- 1) A day hike on the Reservation
- 2) An overnight to one of the outpost camps
- 3) A day canoe trip on Wolverine Lake
- 4) A "mountain"climb along the White River

THE "VETERAN" CAMPER - One or more years at Owasippe Scout Reservation.

For the more experienced campers, we recommend the following trips. These are more difficult, but can be accomplished with the proper planning.

BY TRAIL - the outposts along the White River from Sherwood to Pines Point are further away than those located directly on the Reservation. Groups may start at camp and progress up the river to the outposts or "jump off" at Sherwood for Pines Point. From Sherwood to Pines Point is rugged hiking country. Groups taking this route, with full pack, usually spend three days days and nights on the trail.

BY CANOE - many groups prefer to go by canoe. Trips for this experience level should be limited to the White River. This gives the boys an opportunity to carry gear in a canoe, and experience travel on a "beginning canoe route." If the troop or post has the necessary leadership, they can be divided - part go by canoe, part by trail.

"Pack and Paddle" forms marked "B" mean:

One	year	ex	periend	ced	campe	rs -	or	two	pack	trips	of
two	or mo	ore	miles	and	they	want	t to	:		9 25 10	

1)	Trail	trip	to			
2)	Canoe	trip	to	W.	(F) (A)	* ************************************

TRAIL MARKINGS

Trails at Owasippe are marked with Fleur-de-lis signs. The trail marking colors are Red, Yellow, Blue and White.

The Red, Yellow and Blue trails are major trails in the Owasippe trail program. The White trails are connecting trails - trails that take you from one major trail to another or to special off-trail areas of interest.

Along the river trail, markers are used to indicate campsites for canoeists.

TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

A transportation charge is made for off-camp trips. Bus transportation charges are \$.40 per mile, and \$.30 per mile for hauling canoes.

Combined units, using the same vehicle split the costs. Transportation charges are payable at camp, at the conclusion of your trip. Units may furnish their own transportation.

SAMPLE CHARGES

Destination	Miles	One-Way Bus	One-Way Canoe Hauling
Taylor Bridge	(32)	\$ 12.80	\$ 9.60
Pine Points	(48)	19.20	14.40
Cushman's Landing	(12)	4.80	3.60
Cisco Rollaway	(10)	4.00	3.00
Muskegon River			
A. Put in Croton			
Dam	(35)	14.00	10.50
B. Take out Muskego	on		
Causway	(15)	6.00	4.50
Pine River			
A. Put in Skookom			
Bridge	(81)	32.40	27.30
B. Take out M-55			
Bridge	(100)	40.00	30.00
C. Take out Tippy	,		
Dam	(110)	44.00	33.00
D. Take out Maniste	Markey Company of the Company	34.00	25.50

These are just a sample of some of the leading "jump off" and "pickup" points. Mileage is figured from the Ad Centers to the destination. Charges are made by actual speedometer reading.



CANCEISTS INFORMATION

It has been pointed out earlier that the West Michigan sector has some of the state's finest canoe routes. So that you may be more familiar with the three rivers, we will operate with the "Pack & Paddle" program. A brief description follows of those canoe routes.

WHITE RIVER

Located in Oceana and Muskegon counties - 60 miles in length - a two day journey. Commercial suppliers are available at Newaygo, White Cloud or Hesperia.

While the White River rises in Newaygo county and could be canoed in that section, the best place to start your trip is at Taylor Bridge or Hesperia. It is not a deep river, averaging about 18 inches with some deep holes.

It flows through practically uninhabited country. It is very crooked and has many hairpin turns. There are many camping places along the shores. All Owasippe outpost camps are marked

with a double white fleur-de-lis metal sign. These marked campsites contain water pumps with safe drinking water.

Fishing is not too good below Hesperia, though the fishing for big trout in early spring during the spawning run has been good, and White Bass fishing in early summer is excellent.

The river bottom is mostly sand and gravel, with some silt. The river ends at White Lake.

MUSKEGON RIVER (Western Section)

Located in Mecosta, Newaygo and Muskegon counties - total river length is 227 miles - 7 to 14 day journey. The Muskegon River rises in Higgins and Houghton Lakes in the eastern part of Michigan and flows southwesterly into Lake Michigan at Muskegon. It drains a watershed approximately 2 miles wide and 121 miles long. The total drop of the river from source to mouth is 559 feet - about 2-1/2 fee per mile which increases to 4.4 feet per mile between Hersey and Newaygo and then tapers off down to Muskegon Lake. There are no dangerous rapids. There are some fast rips which should be navigated carefully, but even a novice can run them with care.

There are numerous places for supplies, depending on where your trip starts. Putting in at Croton you will find excellent rainbow and brown trout fishing. At Paris you will find the stream swift. You will need to be careful around the old washed out dam. We suggest a portage if you feel shaky. Big Rapids, a fair size town, is passed by next. There is a washed out dam where you must portage into the backwaters of Rogers Dam. There are stumps and deadheads along the shores - excellent fishing for bass and pike, 13 miles down to Rogers Dam there are good camping spots. Portage around dam on right-hand side.

You are now in the headwaters of Hardy Dam - this is the highest earth work dam in the world. The pond is !6 miles long, 1-1/2 miles wide. The next take out point is Hardy Dam. You will have to paddle this pond. If you have a headwind, follow the shore so you can take advantage of windbreaks. The wind kicks up a pretty good sea across these waters. There are many camping places along the shores - high banks on one side - well wooded - some flat lands. At Hardy take out on the west bank - portage about 1/4 mile.

You are now in the Croton Dam backwaters. The banks are heavily wooded and the water is slow. There are plenty of stumps along the shore.

This is good bass fishing country, also pike, rainbow and walleye. It is 5.8 miles to Croton Dam. Take out on the right bank, portage about 200 yards. Suppliers are available here at Croton.

The next 13.3 miles to Newaygo is the dream of big trout fishermen. There are some whoppers in this stretch, especially in "The Riffles" a very fast piece of water below Croton. Fish up to 20 pounds have been netted and planted in these waters. In the lower waters there are big browns. All along the way are smallmouth bass and there are walleyes in the deep pools.

The water gets slow as you get down towards the Newaygo Dam. There are many springs gushing from the high wooded banks. You will find many good camping places.

Land and take out on the right side of Newaygo Dam - portage about 300 yards. Highway M-37 intersects here.

It is 13 miles from here to Bridgeton - excellent smallmouth bass fishing - high banks and lowlands - all heavily wooded - good camping spots along the way.

The stream begins to slow down as you reach the swampy area - about 8 miles of marshland is passed through before you reach the take out point at the Muskegon Couseway since you entered the river at Croton - providing you have not had too many side trips - you have now traveled 112 miles of some of America's finest canoe country.

PINE RIVER

Located in Lake and Manistee counties about 45 miles in length from put in point at Skookum Bridge to take out at M-55 Bridge near the town of Wellston and the Tippy Dam Pond.

This is one of those streams that keep you on the alert all the time. You will rest often along the way. The water is swift, with many rapids and sharp turns. This is not recommended for novice canoeists.

You will find diversified topagraphy - high banks of clay or sand, heavily wooded shores, flat acreage with mixed pine and hardwoods.

Fishing for brook and rainbow trout. It is said the trout in this stream are firmer and greater fighters than in any other stream in this part of the state.

There are no dams in the upper river - you will find wing dams which you can get around - and you may come upon these at a right angle turn, so keep your eyes open. There are occasional log jams, but these do not block the entire stream.

Between Skookum and Walker's Bridge is the Ne-bo-shone propertyyou are not allowed to land on this property - but you may pass through on the river.

The average depth of the water is 2 to 3 feet, with many deep pools.

JUST A FEW POINTERS

When you pitch camp, examine the surrounding woods to see that there is no dead tree that could fall across your canoe or campsite if a storm should come up.

Never go into the woods without a compass - and a map of the locality. Learn how to use the compass before you start out. Drink water frequently in small amounts to replace your body moisture. Purify the water with halagone or boiling if you have secured your water from an unknown source. Trail camps along the White River have tested water-safe for drinking.

Don't follow old wood roads if you are lost, especially the two tracks abounding in this part of Michigan - they may wander over half the county. Find a stream and follow it down - it's sure to bring you to some habitation.

If you tip your canoe - stay with it and get back inside and paddle - you will have a better chance of reaching shore. Wear your life jacket at all times when aboard your canoe. If you get wet - no matter how cold it is - take off your clothes and wring them out and put them on again. You will be a lot warmer afterwards.

Never drift into swift water - have steerage way - and never drift into swift water broadside.

If you are in a group with two or more canoes and have to cross rough water, do not lash your canoes together. It is one of the best ways to take on water and fill up. Stay on shore or paddle close to shore, staying in the lea of islands out of wind. NEVER cross big lakes alone in rough water.

Prepare at least two hot meals daily and eat plenty.

Make sure, in carrying your axe, that it is sheathed. Be careful in using the axe - a slip - a cut foot and your trip is finished.

When swimming, use the safe swim defense plan - always the buddy system.

Never drag your canoe onto the shore - even on a grassy or sandy shore - always lift your canoe in and out of the water.

It is wise to stow your paddles at night in a tree or on a rack. Don't leave them on the ground - porcupines and mice love to nibble on the handles where perspiration from hands has made them salty.

Never use a paddle as a pole - it wasn't made to stand that kind of use. A cracked paddle may break when you need it most.

A canoe is one of the finest water vehicles made. It will ride out rougher weather than most boats of the same size. Keep the weight on the bottom. If you have to ride rough water, get off the seat and paddle kneeling.

Don't overload your canoe. The data and will will adult out

Always carry a tote litter bag. When on the trail do not throw or bury - what you can't burn, be sure to carry.

WE SAY THANKS

The information in this book comes from various sources. The Owasippe Trail net was devised and marked by Whitt Lloyd and Bob Blew, with the help and guidance of William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt of "Boys' Life" magazine. Out-of-camp trails and outposts along the White River were marked by the CIT Class of 1971. We are indebted to veteran ranger Will Teall for information regarding the Muskegon and Pine Rivers, and to Bill Wadsworth, National Director of High Adventure, for his guidance and help in the editing of this brochure. To all these people, and to the Conservation Department of the State of Michigan who have been invaluable to us as a source of information, we say "thank you."



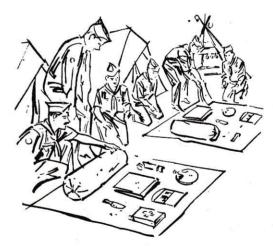




AQUATIC TRAINING CAMP---JULY 30-AUGUST 12

A special advanced training camp for older boys (13 years of age and older) who wish to advance their aquatic training skills. Under the guidance of skilled instructors from the American Red Cross and B.S.A. Aquatic Schools, boys will receive instruction and training to qualify them for all aquatic merit badges, Scout Lifeguard, ARC Junior and Senior Lifesaving, skin diving and scuba training, smallcraft handling, and other related aquatic activities. Registration is limited to 30 boys. Cost is \$60.00 for the camp.





LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CAMP---AUGUST 13--19

A unique experience for 32 selected young men (one per Scout district) that will train them in leadership development, patrol operation, troop programming, and expand their knowledge and skills in outdoor living. Each candidate will be reviewed and final selection will be by his District Training Committee. Cost for this camp is \$30.00.



SAILING BASE

The Owasippe Lodge Sailing Base is located on Big Blue Lake adjacent to the Camp Blackhawk waterfront. This area is for use by all Scouts camping on the Owasippe Reservation. To use the sailing base, a group must schedule a time through their own camp office. The group then hikes to the sailing base, receives some basic instruction in the use of the equipment, and experiences a sail on Big Blue Lake. Sailing is limited to those Scouts who are classified as "swimmers" only. There is no charge for use of this program.



HORSEMANSHIP AREA

The Horsemanship area is located southwest of the Ad Center towards Camp Stuart (can be reached by taking the Yellow Trail south from the Ad Center). This highly specialized program is for Scouts who would like the opportunity to learn how to ride and handle a horse or perfect their horsemanship skills by working on Horsemanship Merit Badges. Riding is on an hourly basis and tickets are sold at each camp Trading Post. Cost per hour ride is \$2.00. Horsemanship Merit Badge classes are at 9:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

PACK AND PADDLE MENU

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

SUPPER

SUNDAY

FRESH, FOODS

Frankfurters on Bun Baked Beans Potato Chips Pickle Chips

Cookies

Beverage Drink

MONDAY

FRESH FOODS

Apple Juice

Individual Cereal

Eggs Bacon

Bread & Margarine

Cocoa

DHYD FOODS

"P'Nut Butter & Jelly"

Jelly Spread Peanut Butter

Milk Lunch Crackers

Fruit Drink

Jelly Candy Bars

DHYD FOODS

"Savory Beef Stew" Vegetable Broth Savory Beef Stew Bolton Biscuits

Tea & Sugar Gel Dessert

TUESDAY

DHYD FOODS

"Eggs & Hash Browns" Hash Brown Potatoes Scrambled Eggs

Shortening Tea & Sugar

Bolton Biscuits

DHYD FOODS

"Tangy Meat Spread"

Meat Spread Bolton Biscuits

Fruit Drink Chocolate Bar DHYD FOODS "Chicken a La"

Beef Bouillon Chicken a La King

Bolton Crackers Chuck Wagon Cocoa

Applesauce Fruit Drink

WEDNESDAY

FRESH FOODS

Apple Juice

Cold Cereal

Eggs

Bread & Margarine

Cocoa

DHYD FOODS

"Cheese & Crackers" Cheese Spread

Bolton Crackers Fruit Drink

Chocolate Bar

DHYD FOODS

"Italian Spaghetti"

Chicken Broth

Spaghetti & Tomato

Sauce

Fruit Delight

Bolton Biscuits Fruit Drink

Cocoa

THURSDAY

DHYD FOODS

"Stack of Cakes"

Orange Drink

Pancake Mix

Syrup Mix

Shortening

Coffee & Cocoa

Cream & Sugar

MONDAY REPEAT

Chopped Steak

Boiled Potatoes

Green Beans

FRESH FOODS

Tossed Salad

Fresh Fruit

Milk

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

SUPPER

FRIDAY

FRESH FOODS
Orange
Cream of Wheat
French Toast
Syrup
Cocoa

TUESDAY REPEAT

DHYD FOODS
"Turkey Good N Hearty"
Turkey
Peas & Carrots
Bolton Biscuits
Fruit Drink
Chocolate Pudding

Date of the second

SATURDAY

DHYD FOODS
"Quickie-No Cooking"
Tangerine Drink
Frosted Cereal
Raisins
Jelly Spread
Milk
Crackers

* A Experienced



CHICAGO AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

OFFICE USE ONLY Date Rec'd _____ Date of Trip ____ Total Charges____

PACK and PADDLE

Troop No.	Camp	·		Trip Date S	tart
District		Period	Trip	Date End _	
What kind of trip?					
In Camp Day H Out of Camp C	ernight	Can	O8	_ "A"	"В"
TRIP INFORMATION					(2)
Trip Leader		Age	Scouting Positi	on	
Number of Scouts		How Many	Are: Swimmer	·	
Number of Leaders			Beginner	·	
TRANSPORTATION REQU	UEST				
Bus Transportation is Need	ed From		To		
(Return)					
Canoe Hauling is Needed	From	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	To		
(Return)	From		To		

Day	Bike	Lunch	Supper
Sun.			
Mon.			
Tue.			
Wed_			
Thur.			
Pri_			
Sat			

Location	Biks. Lunch	Supper
	Location	Location Bfks. Lunch

Item	How Many	Rental Charge	Charge for
			Loss or
			Damage
Tarp Tents		\$.50 ea.	\$15.25
Trail Chef	Kits	\$.50 ea.	\$13.50
Utensil Kit	}·	\$.25 ea.	\$ 4.99
Relector O	ven	\$.25 ea.	\$ 5.98
Dutch Over		\$.25 ea.	\$ 7.80
Shovels		\$.25 ea.	\$ 1.69
Axes		\$.25 ea.	\$ 6.50
Water Iug		\$.25 ea.	\$ 1.56
Griddles		\$.25 ea.	\$ 3.58
Ice Chest		\$.50 ea.	\$14.00
Pack Frame	1	\$.10 ea.	\$ 5.00
Canoe		NC	\$220.00
Rowboats		NC	\$150.00